

California State Senate

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September 11, 2019

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Recommended Veto of AB 1297 (McCarty)

Dear Governor Newsom:

I respectfully write to request your veto of Assembly Bill 1297, which requires the law enforcement agency issuing a license to carry a concealed firearm to charge a fee to cover the reasonable costs of issuing and enforcing the license.

This measure is nothing more than a thinly-veiled attack stemming from a well-known, local dispute. The existing fee cap exists so that all individuals have access to these permits regardless of their income. By eliminating this cap and increasing the fee, this measure will only serve to reduce the ability of low and moderate income Californians to obtain permits and protect themselves when faced with potential threats, such as domestic abusers.

While I can appreciate that the author does not agree with this particular local program, that fact is not an appropriate reason to raise the fee on a statewide basis. There are many activities funded by local governments that cost more than an authorized fee for services. In these cases, decisions regarding funding and whether to operate a program within the constraints of the law should be left to the elected officials in those jurisdictions.

For these reasons, I respectfully request your veto.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Shannon Grove".

Shannon Grove
Senate Republican Leader